Alberta Treasury
Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF JULY 17 TO JULY 21, 2000

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month	Month'00/ Month'99	Comments
Manufacturing Shipments ($millions)	May			
Alberta	3,438	7.9%	17.4%	On a month-over-month basis, Alberta, with a 7.9% increase in May, had the second largest increase among the provinces behind Newfoundland (8.3%). Nationally manufacturing shipments rose 3.4%. This rise was led by increases in motor vehicle (5.2%) as well as refined petroleum and coal shipments (9.7%).
Canada	44,810	3.4%	11.9%	
Retail Sales ($millions)	May			
Alberta	2,620	-0.3%	11.7%	In May, Alberta retail sales fell by 0.3% from the previous month; by contrast, national retail sales were up 0.4%. From May 1999 to May of 2000, Alberta (11.7%) had the greatest increase in retail sales among the provinces. Half of the ten provinces showed declines from the previous month. The automotive sector (1.5%) contributed the most to the increase of national sales.
Canada	22,675	0.4%	6.2%	
Wholesale Trade ($millions)	May			
Alberta	3,023	1.4%	14.7%	In May, Alberta wholesale trade rose by 1.4% from April; national wholesale trade saw a similar increase of 1.3%. For the ten provinces, declines were experienced in Saskatchewan (-7.8%), Prince Edward Island (-0.7%) and British Columbia (-0.5%) over the last month. On a year-over-year basis, Alberta (14.7%) had the greatest increase in wholesale trade among provinces.
Canada	31,929	1.3%	8.5%	
Trade Balance	May			
Canada ($millions)	3,748	18.2%	50.1% [a]	Canada's trade surplus in the first five months of 2000 was 50.1% higher than the same period last year. Exports in May rose more than $1.5 billion dollars (+4.6%) after a $1.1 billion decline in April (-3.4%). Exports of high technology equipment, metals and crude oil were the main contributors to the increase.

[a] Y.T.D 2000 / Y.T.D 1999